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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants : Kazumasa AYUKAWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3682

Appln. No. : 09/961,365

Examiner: M. CHARLES

Filed : September 25, 2001

For : THIN AUTOTENSIONER

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 8 5 2003  
**GROUP 3600**

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements filed in the instant application on December 26, 2001 and June 24, 2002, Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 5-83516, published on November 12, 1993, together with a full English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 7-4481, published on January 10, 1995, together with a full English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 7-91509, published on April 4, 1995, together with a full English language translation of the same;

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 7-113448, published on May 2, 1995, together with a full English language translation of the same; and

Japanese Laid Open Patent Publication No. 2000-320629, published on November 24, 2000, together with a full English language translation of the same.

Applicants note that the above-mentioned documents were cited in Japanese Office Actions dated April 4, 2003 for corresponding Japanese Application Nos. 2001-114769 and/or 2001-129141. The Japanese Office Actions are not available at the time of filing this statement, however, copies of the same will be submitted as soon as they are obtained.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and cite the patent documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Further, Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant application. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued, and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p), to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kazumasa AYUKAWA et al.

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June 23, 2003  
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